

## LIBRARY NOTES

## DAMAGE TO BOOKS

Mutilating or defacing of books at the Academy, which formerly was of frequent occurrence, seems to have lessened with our change of base. Whether this be true or only apparent cannot be said with positiveness. If true, it may be due to the fact that readers of a certain class have not been visiting the library since the move to 103rd Street. A number of "floaters," people who used our library as a club, were in evidence at 43rd Street. These came in the morning and read (and occasionally slept), till leaving time at two o'clock. Some of these were suspected of being the mutilators of books and journals, but owing to lack of supervision, proof was lacking. On the other hand, it is possible that this form of abuse of library property may be committed like book larceny by anyone. Mr. E. W. Gaillard, of the New York Public Library, who has a long experience with the stealing of books concludes that there is no particular class of *book thieves*; that the book and the opportunity and the desire occur simultaneously and the theft follows; anyone may succumb.

Mutilations are of several kinds, the cutting of pages from an article, or the removal of a picture, or underscoring of passages with pen or pencil. The first is usually of scientific or news value, while this second loss is usually of the pornographic; as partial preventive of the latter, a number of books have been put in locked cases. But these are of course but a fraction of the books subject to the vandal.

During the year 1927 it has come to the attention of members of the library staff on half a dozen occasions that one or several pages have been removed from current magazines or from the bound volumes of recent years. The vandals, of course, do their mischief when no one is about.

In the New York Public Library recently a man was detected cutting articles out of bound volumes of newspapers. He was arrested and sentenced to the workhouse for four months. The law is plain and copies of it are displayed in every public

library, so that a plea of ignorance of the law is no excuse. Besides, everyone must know that to destroy or steal property in this way is a wrong thing to do.

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### RECENT ACCESSIONS TO THE LIBRARY

- de Almeida, A., Jr. O exame medico pre-nupcial.  
S. Paulo, Inst. d. Anna Rosa, 1927, 110 p.
- American child health association. Health trends in secondary education.  
N. Y., Am. child health association, 1927, 153 p.
- American pharmaceutical association. The national formulary,  
5. ed. Phila., Am. phar. asso, 1926, 546 p.
- Bailey, H. Demonstrations of physical signs in clinical surgery.  
Bristol, Wright, 1927, 217 p.
- Burke, E. T. Treatment of venereal disease in general practice.  
N. Y., Oxford pr., 1927, 162 p.
- Bush, A. D. A textbook of pharmacology.  
Phila., Blakiston, 1927, 181 p.
- Calligaris, G. Il sistema motorio extrapiromidale.  
Milano, Soc. an. istituto ed. sci., 1927, 1256 p.
- Cavaillon. L'armement anti-vénérien en France.  
Paris, Le mouv. sanit., 1927, 473 p.
- Cimbal, W. Die Neurosen des Kindesalters.  
Berlin, Urban, 1927, 509 p.
- Chesterton, G. K. Eugenics and other evils.  
N. Y., Dodd, 1927, 246 p.
- Coope, R. The diagnosis of pancreatic disease.  
Lond., Oxford pr., 1927, 112 p.
- Corscaden, J. A. History taking and recording.  
N. Y., Hoeber, 1926, 78 p.
- Crow, D. A. The ear, nose, and throat in general practice.  
N. Y., Oxford pr., 1927, 150 p.
- Cullen, T. S. Early medicine in Maryland.  
Balt., 1927, 15 p.
- Domitilla, M. Outline of materia medica and special therapeutics.  
Phila., Saunders, 1927, 101 p.